STATE OF MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2004-744

November 29, 2004

UNITED SYSTEMS ACCESS TELECOM, INC. Request for Authorization to Provide Facility-Based Competitive Local Exchange Service in the Augusta, Bangor, Bar Harbor, Biddeford, Brewer, Brunswick, Ellsworth, Lewiston, Orono, Portland and Waterville Exchanges

ORDER APPROVING
APPLICATION TO AMEND
ORDER REGARDING SCOPE
OF AUTHORITY

WELCH, Chairman; DIAMOND and REISHUS, Commissioners

On October 29, 2004, United Systems Access Telecom, Inc. filed a petition to expand its service territory for facilities-based local exchange service to areas beyond those authorized in our order granting authority to provide service in Docket Nos. 2001-355 and 2002-232.

On March 30, 1999, in Docket No. 99-187, the Commission delegated to the Director of Technical Analysis the authority under 35-A M.R.S.A. §§ 2102 and 2105 to approve service territory changes by local exchange carriers.

For local exchange carriers (LECs) seeking to provide facilities-based local exchange service, the Director must initially make a determination that a LEC has made a reasonable showing that it will be providing facilities-based service to the area in question within six months.

The Commission staff has reviewed the documents submitted by United Systems Access Telecom, Inc. relating to facilities readiness and has determined that it has made a reasonable showing that it will be providing service within six months in the area listed in the ordering paragraphs below.

Accordingly,

1. I FIND, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. §§ 2102 and 2105, that the public convenience and necessity requires the provision of additional facilities-based local exchange service in the area listed below, also served by another telephone utility, and hereby AUTHORIZE United Systems Access Telecom, Inc. to provide facilities-based local exchange service in the areas defined as the Augusta, Bangor, Bar Harbor, Biddeford, Brewer, Brunswick, Ellsworth, Lewiston, Orono, Portland, and Waterville exchanges of New England Telephone and Telegraph Company d/b/a Verizon-Maine; and

I DIRECT United Systems Access Telecom, Inc. to file revised terms and conditions¹ consistent with the authority granted today.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 29th day of November 2004.

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Faith Huntington

¹ United Systems Access Telecom, Inc. filed revised terms and conditions on November 15, 2004 and we are in the process of reviewing them for compliance with this Order.